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March 23, 2004      LB 983, 1065

SENATOR CONNEALY:    Yes.

SENATOR BOURNE:      And your amendment would put back, so that 66-4,142 is in effect?

SENATOR CONNEALY:    Yes.

SENATOR BOURNE:      And what again does 66-4,142 do?

SENATOR CONNEALY:    It calls for the, if there's a shortfall in the EPIC Fund, funding from the corn checkoff and other...whatever funding mechanism is funding the Ethanol Board...ethanol incentive fund, that the offset would come from the gas tax. And then the gas tax could be varied to compensate for it.

SENATOR BOURNE:      So what you're...okay, so the bill that we agreed on coming out of committee, LB 983, struck that section that provided for a funding mechanism in the event that EPIC ran short. And you're trying to put that back in and say that we need that funding in the event that the fund does run short.

SENATOR CONNEALY:    The...I am, in this bill. And LB 1065, which is coming up, has the same section strike...striking the same section because it does have a new funding mechanism for the EPIC Fund. Until we have that in place, I think that we ought to leave this in statute.

SENATOR BOURNE:      But, I guess, so you're assuming that LB 1065 is going to pass.

SENATOR CONNEALY:    No, I'm not.

SENATOR BOURNE:      Well, if you're saying that this section is going to be struck in LB 1065, so we don't need to do it here, it seems to me that you are supposing that at...

SENATOR CONNEALY:    If I could, I'm assuming that if we do LB 1065, we won't need this section anymore because there will be a funding mechanism to fund the EPIC Fund. If we don't do LB 1065, there's no mechanism and that we'd leave it, leave the